Minister like to make on these observations?

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: I have already submitted that I have no idea about the developments, that researches are being carried out by this institution. And I brought to the notice of the hon. Members that whatever research is done, it is for the other agencies to carry out this research and pass on the effects of the research to the farmers and the industry. To the farmers, it is done by *the Agriculture Department, and to the industry, it is done by the Industry Department. Anyway, I will go through all these things and I assure this House, Sir, that I will take up whichever measures arc necessary for the development of the jute industry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Obviously, a wcll-thought-out approach is necessary.

Exports earnings from cotton handloom fabric

*284. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the value in rupees of cotton handloom fabric goods exported by Government during the year 1994-95, 1995-96 and during three months of current year; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to increase the export of handloom goods?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The figures of cotton handloom fabrics and made-ups exports during 1994-95, 1995-96 and the latest available figures for April-May, 1996 are given below:

	Export (Value in Rs .
1994-95	, 1996 1504.6
1995-96	1491.3
April-May	207.5

(b) Government have been taking a number of steps to boost exports of handloom goods from the country, such as sponsoring Buyer-Seller Meets, participation in fairs in major markets, releasing advertisements in foreign trade magazines, product development and quality upgradation through appropriate training programmes.

In order to give a fillip to the export of handloom fabrics, made-ups and other handlooms items from all parts of the country, a comprehensive scheme for developing exportable products, building up infrastructure for export and thereafter marketing it, has been drawn up by the Government of India. The objectives of the scheme are to identify and select handloom concentration areas, engage designers, modify looms, train weavers, generate exportable designs and samples, develop appropriate packaging for exportable products, exercise quality control on exportable products, documentation and monitoring etc.

श्री इकबाल सिंह: सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो आंकड़े दिये हैं 1504 करोड़ प्वाइंट सम्थिंग यह 1994-95 और 1995-96 के हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जो हमने टारगेट फिक्स किया था, क्या उसको 100% पूरा कर लिया गया है? महोदय, आज पूरे भारत में जो भारतीय हैंडलूम का सामान है, इसको बढ़ावा मिल रहा है और पूरी दुनियां में, पूरे संसार में इनकी डिमांड बहुत बढ़ गई है। इसी के साथ भारत के कल्चर का भी बाहर के मुल्कों में बहुत प्रचार हो रहा है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या उन्होंने टारगेट पूरा किया है या नहीं?

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Sir, for the last two years, we could not achieve the targets. There is a shortfall of six to seven per cent.

श्री इकबाल सिंह: मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि मिनिमम कामन प्रोग्राम के तहत जो 70 प्रतिशत आबादी गांवों की है वह अपने रोजगार के लिए हैंडलूम में काम कर रहे हैं। क्या उनकी गरीबी को दूर करने के लिए या गांवों में कॉटन हैंडलूम में काम करने वाले बच्चों की एजुकेशन के लिए, महिलाओं की हेल्थ के लिए, हम क्या-क्या कर रहे हैं?

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Sir, there arc nine to ten schemes wherein we provide health facilities and education facilities to the children and the handloom weavers of this country. These schemes are being implemented through the respective States. Unfortunately, Sir, the funds which arc being provided are gradually coming down for the last three years. Sir, yesterday evening, I was speaking to a friend of mine who has come from Detroit. He was saying that wherever he went and whichever he garment he picked up, be it s shirt or a pant, there were the words, 'Made in China'. So, we have some lacunae to be set right. Unfortunately, most of the handlooms arc shifting to powcrlooms as the former is not remunerative. To make it remunerative, we have to revise some methods by providing new technology, new designs, new blends and also dyes, the azo-dyes. It appears the people found some problems with azo-dyes. They want vegetable dyes. We are also looking into this aspect.

We have 11 laboratories. This year we are going to increase the number to 19. We are also thinking of providing the handloom weavers with a new type of handlooms.

Incidentally I may mention that I have requested Mr. Kotaiah, the Chairman of the NABARD, to meet me at 4.00 p.m. today to find but whether he could help the handloom weavers by providing loans and working capital. This is what we are thinking of doing for the handloom weavers.

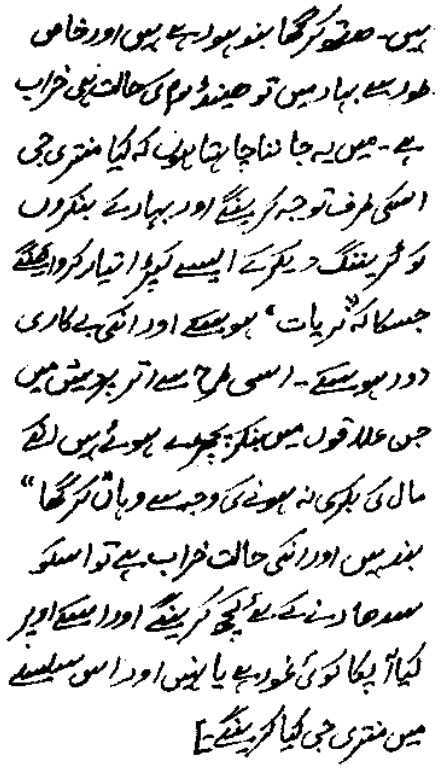
श्री राजमोहनलाल: सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा जैसा मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में कहा है कि सारे देश से हथकरघा सामान का निर्यात बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार नए कदम उठा रही है जैसे क्रेता-विक्रेता बैठकों को प्रायोजित करना आदि तो मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि इतने प्रचार और प्रसार के बाद वर्ष 1994-95 का निर्यात 1504.6 करोड़ का हुआ तो वर्ष 1995-96 में 1491.3 करोड़ का क्यों हुआ, क्योंकि यह घट गया है? आपके प्रचार और प्रसार के बाद यह घटा क्यों है, यह बताने की कृपा करें?

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Sir, there are several reasons for this. Firstly, there is a recession in the European countries and also in the USA. Secondly, there was some problem in 1993-94 about the quality of our fabrics. That is why there is some shortfall. Thridly, other countries arc more advanced in the fabric manufacture than us. We have to give more importance to that. We are keeping in view all these problems. To face global competition after 200S AD, we must be ready with some innovative measures and we arc at it. We are trying to improve the quality of fabric and also the quality of life of our weavers.

मौलाना हबीबुर्रहमान मोमानी: चेयरमैन सर, मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि हैंडलूम के कपड़े से इस मुल्क को बड़ी आय होती है और इसके बढ़ने की संभावना भी ज्यादा है, लेकिन इसी के साथ-साथ हम यह देख रहे हैं कि उत्तर प्रदेश के कुछ जिलों में बुनकर तबाही की तरफ जा रहे हैं। हथकरघा बंद हो रहे हैं और खास तौर से बिहार में तो हैंडलूम की हालत बिल्कुल ही खराब है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या मंत्री जी इसकी तरफ तवज्जह करेंगे और बिहार के बुनकरों को प्रशिक्षण दे करके ऐसा कपड़ा तैयार करवायेंगे जिसका कि निर्यात हो सके और उनकी बेकारी दूर हो सके? इसी तरह से उत्तर प्रदेश में जिन इलाकों में बुनकर पिछड़े हुए हैं उनके माल की बिक्री न होने की वजह से वहां करघा बंद है और उनकी हालत खराब है तो उसको सुधारने के लिए कुछ करेंगे और इसके ऊपर क्या आपका कोई गौर है या नहीं और इस सिलसिले में मंत्री जी क्या करेंगे?

†मौलाना हबीब الرحمٰن نعمانی: چیئرمین سر، میں منتری جی سے یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ ہینڈلوم سے کپڑے سے اس ملک کو بڑی آمدنی ہوتی ہے اور اسکے بڑھنے کی توقع بھی زیادہ ہے لیکن اسی کے ساتھ ساتھ ہم یہ دیکھ رہے ہیں کہ اتر پردیش کے کچھ ضلعوں میں بنکر تباہی کی طرف جا رہے ہیں

†l) Transliteration in Arabic Script.



SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Sir, 'the Government is aware of the plight of weavers. In fact, out of twenty-two lakhs of weavers, nearly ten lakhs are in Uttar Pradesh. We recently had a discussion about all these things. I will assure this House that we will do our best to improve the lot of weavers. I have already submitted, here that in addition to improving the lot of weavers, we must also try to improve the quality. Then only we will be improving the life of the workers.

SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, this industry is very vital for India because it provides opportunity for a lot of employment. And therefore, its development, both in terms of quality and subsequent expo promotion, is very vital.

The hon. Minister stated that there is recession in America. I would just like to bring to his notice that there is no recession, there is almost total employment and the economy is booming. Our exports constitute a very small part of their imports of similar fabrics from other parts of the world.

What is being done (a) to improve the quality and design of our handloom fabrics, and (b) to specifically improve the volume of exports to America and the newly emerging countries in South-East Asia?

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Sir, we have already opened 11 handloom service centres for improving the quality. If any State Government comes forward for improving the designs by taking foreign technology, we are prepared to meet that expenditure through the Handloom Development Corporations in respective States. We are also thinking of employing some foreign designers. In addition to that, the quality of the woven fabric is also to be improved. We are looking into it. I am now trying to interact with different unions of handloom weavers and understand the problem. I will do my best to redress their grievances.

गुजरात में भूतपूर्व सैनिकों का पुनर्वास

***285. श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे:** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) 31 जुलाई, 1996 की स्थिति के अनुसार गुजरात में निवास कर रहे भूतपूर्व सैनिकों की जिला-वार संख्या कितनी है;

(ख) राज्य के प्रत्येक जिले में भूतपूर्व सैनिकों के कल्याण और पुनर्वास के लिए आरंभ किए गए कार्यक्रमों का ब्यौरा क्या है और इन कार्यक्रमों से कितने भूतपूर्व सैनिक लाभान्वित हुए हैं; और

(ग) राज्य में भूतपूर्व सैनिकों को उचित मूल्य पर वस्तुएं उपलब्ध करवाने हेतु कैंटीन की सुविधा प्रदान करने के लिए अब तक कार्यवाही न किए जाने के कारणों का ब्यौरा क्या है?